

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 14551 091639Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----071476 091640Z /46
O 091605Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9850

S E C R E T LONDON 14551

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV UK RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MOOSE-LAKE MEETING WITH OWEN

1. MOOSE, LAKE, LOW AND SEITZ MET WITH DAVID OWEN, CARVER, PALLISER, GRAHAM, REID AND OTHERS FOR THREE HOURS SEPT 9. THE DISCUSSION CENTERED ON A REPORT FROM LOW AND GRAHAM OF THEIR LAST DAYS IN SALISBURY AND MAPUTO, ON THE POSSIBLE ACTIONS SMITH MAY TAKE IN REACTION TO THE VISCOUNT INCIDENT, AND ON CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.
2. THE GROUP DECIDED TO ISSUE A STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE MEETING WHICH REAFFIRMS OUR DETERMINATION TO PRESS AHEAD WITH NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO ALL-PARTIES TALKS, CONDEMNS THE ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE IN RHODESIA, AND CALLS FOR RESTRAINT BY ALL THE PARTIES. STATEMENT FOLLOWS BY SEPTEL. IN ADDITION, WE AGREED THAT THE CONTACT GROUP IN NEW YORK SHOULD IMMEDIATELY URGE THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO WORK FOR RHODESIAN RESTRAINT SINCE RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST ZAMBIAN TARGETS COULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE THE NAMIBIAN AGREEMENT.

3. ON DIPLOMATIC PLANS FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, THE
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FOLLOWING STEPS WERE AGREED:

- A) BY WEDNESDAY, THE FCO WILL HAVE PREPARED A PAPER WHICH PULLS TOGETHER IN A SINGLE DOCUMENT THE CURRENT STATE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS, OUTLINES AREAS OF SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT AMONG THE PARTIES, HIGHLIGHTS SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES THAT REMAIN, AND PUTS FORWARD ALTERNATIVES TO BRIDGE THE GAPS BASED ON

OPTIONS "A", "B", AND "C" WHICH THE BRITISH HAVE PREVIOUSLY GIVEN US. THE PAPER WOULD CLARIFY WHERE NEGOTIATIONS NOW STAND AND SERVE AS A SINGLE, UPDATED REFERENCE WITHIN THE AAP FOR ALL THE PARTIES. THE PAPER WOULD NOT BE FOR PUBLICATION AT THIS STAGE.

B) ONCE THE PAPER IS JOINTLY AGREED IN LONDON AND WASHINGTON, IT WILL BE PRESENTED BY AMBASSADORS/HIGH COMMISSIONERS TO THE FRONT LINE, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, THE NIGERIANS, AND THE SOUTH AFRICANS FOR EXPLANATION. DISCUSSION WOULD CENTER ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSALS. WE WOULD AFFIRM THAT AN ALL PARTIES MEETING REMAINS OUR GOAL BUT NOT PRESS FOR AN IMMEDIATE DATE.

C) THE PAPER WOULD NOT SIMULTANEOUSLY BE GIVEN TO THE SALISBURY LEADERS. AFTER TWO WEEKS OR SO, GRAHAM AND LOW MIGHT RETURN TO SALISBURY TO DISCUSS THE PAPER IN LIGHT OF REACTIONS FROM OTHER CAPITALS.

D) THE PAPER SHOULD INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF LORD CARVER'S PLAN FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FORCES. IN THIS CASE, JEREMY REILLY MIGHT ACCOMPANY GRAHAM AND LOW TO SALISBURY.

E) THE BRITISH ARE REWORKING A SCENARIO THEY HAVE DRAFTED ON THEIR RESPONSE TO A POSSIBLE RHODESIAN RENUNCIATION OF UDI AND CALL FOR REINTRODUCTION OF BRITISH AUTHORITY. WE AGREED THE SCENARIO WOULD LEAVE OPEN WHETHER A TRANSITION CONSTITUTION WOULD BE BASED ON OPTIONS A, B, OR C. WE ALSO AGREED IT WOULD BE VITAL
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TO ACHIEVE THE IMMEDIATE CONCURRENCE OF THE PARTIES TO A CEASE-FIRE AND POLITICAL SETTLEMENT BASED ON THE AAP TOGETHER WITH A UN MANDATE. OWEN SAID IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT HE HAS CABINET APPROVAL FOR THE USE OF BRITISH TROOPS IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES BUT ONLY AS PART OF A UN-MANDATED FORCE. OWEN HAD TWO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE U.S. ROLE: WHEN THE BRITISH SEND THEIR INITIAL HIGH LEVEL MISSION TO SALISBURY IMMEDIATELY AFTER RENUNCIATION, WOULD WE ATTACH A SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL; AND WOULD SECRETARY VANCE BE PREPARED TO ATTEND THE SETTLEMENT MEETING OF THE PARTIES AND FRONT LINE REPRESENTATIVES, PRESUMABLY IN LONDON?

STREATOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAPERS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CONTINGENCY PLANNING, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETINGS, POLITICAL PARTIES, SELFGOVERNMENT, CAT-B, CHEROKEE 9-9-78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON14551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840139-2261
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780984/aaaacrpw.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6c7a7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1493511
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: MOOSE-LAKE MEETING WITH OWEN
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, US, (MOOSE, RICHARD), (LAKE), (OWEN, DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6c7a7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014